**Liber Primus, Caput XII**

Flumen est Arar, quod per fines Haeduorum et Sequanorum in Rhodanum influit, incredibili lenitate, ita ut oculis **in utram** partem fluat iudicari non possit. Id Helvetii ratibus ac lintribus iunctis transibant. Ubi per exploratores Caesar **certior factus est** tres partes Helvetiorum flumen traduxisse, quartam fere partem citra flumen **Ararim** reliquam esse, **de tertia vigilia** cum legionibus tribus e castris profectus ad eam partem pervenit **quae** nondum flumen transierat. Eos impeditos et inopinantes adgressus magnam partem eorum concidit: reliqui **sese fugae mandarunt** atque in proximas silvas abdiderunt. Is pagus[[1]](#footnote-1) appellabatur Tigurinus: nam omnis civitas **Helvetia** in quattuor pagos divisa est. Hic pagus unus **cum** domo exisset **patrum nostrorum memoria** L. Cassium consulem interfecerat et eius exercitum sub iugum[[2]](#footnote-2) miserat. Ita sive casu sive consilio deorum immortalium, quae pars civitatis Helvetiae insignem calamitatem populo Romano intulerat, **ea princeps** poenas persolvit. **Qua in re** Caesar non solum publicas, sed etiam privatas[[3]](#footnote-3) iniurias **ultus est**, quod eius soceri L. Pisonis avum, L. Pisonem[[4]](#footnote-4) legatum, Tigurini eodem proelio quo Cassium **interfecerant**.

**Vocabularium**

**in utram:** *introduces an indirect question*

**certior factus est:** *introduces indirect speech*

**Ararim:***accusative form w/* ***flumen***

**de tertia vigilia:** “from the third watch of the night” *Caesar left after sunset, from 7-9pm.*

**quae***: antecedent is “quartam partem”*

**Helvetia:** *adjective form*

**sese fugaemandarunt:** “ordered themselves to flight” *mandarunt is a syncopated prefect tense form*

**cum:** *here,* “when”

**patrum nostrorum memoria**: “in the memory of our fathers” *has a sense along the lines of “god rest his soul”*

**ea princeps***:* **ea***refers back to* **pars civitatis Helvetiae***and* **princeps***is an adjective agreeing with it.* “This [part] chiefly…”

**qua in re:** “In which action”/“by this battle”

**ultus est:** *from ‘***ulciscor’**

**interfecerant**: *Helvetians are the subject*

1. pagus: “canton” *a canton is considered a sort of county or subsection of a wider state—in this instance, it describes a subsection of the whole Helvetian state, a clan within the complete tribe.*  [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. sub iugum miserat: “had sent…under the yoke” *this is a particularly insulting and humiliating punishment that peoples in ancient Italy practiced, including the Romans. The defeated must strip off their armor, give up their weapons, and then walk under a roof of spears formed by the enemy.*  [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. publicas…privatas: *Caesar had not only avenged the Roman people as a whole, but also avenged his family.*  [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. L. Pisonem: *Romans often had an extremely similar naming system for sons and fathers. Caesar is referring to a certain Lucius Piso, who is the grandfather of his father-in-law (also named Lucius Piso), who was killed in battle by this group of Helvetians.*  [↑](#footnote-ref-4)